

Caernarvon Interagency Advisory Committee Meeting
January 14, 2004
Lindy Boggs Conference Center
University of New Orleans

1. CIAC member roll call.

Garrett Broussard	LDNR, Chair, CIAC
Bruce Baird	USACE
David Walther	USFWS
Jeanene Peckham	USEPA
Bren Haase	NMFS
Heather Warner-Finley	LDWF
Bruce Champion	LDHH
David Oge	LDEQ
Lonny Serpas	Plaquemines Parish Government
Clay Cossé	St. Bernard Parish Government
Jim Hasik	Recreational Fisheries
David Dawson	Landowner Representative

Loland Broussard attended as representative of NRCS.

Representatives from oyster fisheries, and shrimp fisheries were not present.

2. **Motion: Approve minutes from previous meeting.**

Result: All in favor: 11 Opposed: 0 Passed

3. Chuck Villarrubia, LDNR, presented the Caernarvon Annual Report. The report may be found at the DNR web site.
4. Presentation: Edmond Russo, USACE, presented a report of the ongoing regularly scheduled structure maintenance that will be completed during the next low water season.
5. Presentation: Status of LSU Pulses project, was presented by Dr. Jaye Cable at which time she presented the proposed dates for experimental Caernarvon pulsed for 2004.
6. Report from Technical Work Group, Tom Bernard, LDNR. The TWG met December 15, 2003 to discuss the operational plan for 2004. (Para. 7)
7. The 2003 plan was used as a basis for the plan for 2004. The committee agreed to ask the CIAC to increase the upper limit of flow during the months of July through November from 2000cfs to 4000cfs. This would allow more fresh water during these months should high salinity readings dictate. The committee also discussed starting the LSU pulse study one month earlier than LSU proposed, completing on March 5 rather than April 2, in order not to conflict with the shrimping season. The committee tasked Chuck V. to discuss the possibility with Dr. Cable. This was done; however, Dr. Cable indicated that it was important to conduct the pulse study as proposed citing normal weather conditions being more favorable later on in the spring season. With this, the committee agreed to ask

CIAC Annual Meeting 2004

the CIAC to accept the original proposed dates for the pulse study. Dr. Cable agreed to defend these dates at the CIAC meeting, which she did. Those dates are shown on the attached operational plan for 2004. (Discussion Followed) During the discussion, it was mentioned that the high pulse flows be raised from 6500cfs to 7000cfs; however, Dr Cable argued that it was important to keep the flows consistent with previous pulse studies so that a comparison could be made.

8. Ms. Peckham, EPA, suggested that the 2003 operational plan, discussed at the 2003 meeting, though it was not shown on the plan sheet itself, called for a higher flow from the end of the duck season until the start of the pulse study. The records indicated that this was correct and a high flow was recorded during that period 2003. Therefore; she proposed that the same flow be scheduled for this year's plan raising the high flow from 4000cfs to 5000cfs from Jan. 19, 2004 through Feb. 8, 2004. (Discussion Followed)
9. Tom Bernard, DNR, gave a brief summary of the status of the refreshing plan for the south and west area of the outfall. The plan calls for lightly dredging (cleaning out) of three channels at sites 40, 26, and 54 of the outfall management plan. The survey scope is now being prepared and should be completed by Feb. 1, 2004. The DNR engineering dept. will prepare the P & S and place the project out for bids this calendar year. Construction is also scheduled to be completed this year.
10. Mr. Dawson inquired as to the possibility that there be a pulse flow during the middle to late spring. There was some discussion as to the possibility of doing this and it's conflict with the shrimping season. The committee decided to task the CTWC to study this possibility and report on its findings at a CIAC meeting to be scheduled in June/July 2004. The motion passed as noted below.
11. As a result of the above discussions, there were (3) additional motions voted on during the meeting.
 - Motion : Set the flow from January 19, 2004 through February 8, 2004 to between 3000cfs and 5000cfs, and set the flow from July 1, 2004 through Nov. 30, 2004 to between 1000cfs and 4000cfs as show on the attached operational plan for 2004.**
 - Result: All in favor: 11, Opposed: 0, Motion Passed**
 - Motion : Set the dates for the pulse study, proposed by LSU from Feb. 9, 2004 through April 2, 2004, as shown on the attached operational plan for 2004.**
 - Result: All in favor: 10, Opposed: 1, Motion Passed**
 - Motion : Task the Technical Work Committee to study the possibility of pulses during the middle to late spring, if possible, and report back to the CIAC in a mid year meeting (June or July) to be scheduled later.**
 - Result: All in favor: 11, Opposed: 0, Motion Passed**
12. Other Business: There was no other business discussed at this meeting.
13. Meeting was adjourned: Next meeting will be scheduled for June/July 2004.

**CAERNARVON FRESHWATER DIVERSION OPERATIONAL PLAN
January 2004**

Month	Flow Range (cfs) ¹
January 1 - 18	3000-4000 ²
January 19 - February 8	3000-5000 ²
Pulse Low Flow Feb. 09 - Feb. 19	500
Pulse High Flow Feb. 20 - Mar. 04	6500 ⁵
Pulse Low Flow Mar. 05 - Mar. 18	500
Pulse High Flow Mar.19 - Apr. 02	6500 ⁵
April	500-4000 ⁴
May	500-4000 ³
June	1000-4000 ³
July	1000-4000 ⁴
August	1000-4000 ⁴
September	1000-4000 ⁴
October	1000-4000 ⁴
November	1000-4000 ⁴
December	2500 ²
During Duck Season Split	5600 ²

¹ Notwithstanding these flow range targets, operational procedures relating to emergencies, closure of the structure or reduction of flow to reduce the threat of coastal flooding or high water levels reflected by monitoring and operational procedures pertaining to low Mississippi River stage or drought conditions shall all remain in effect. The structure will be closed or reduced if the water level measured by the official USGS gauge at the southeast corner of Big Mar reads above 3.1 NAVD-88.

² Salinity at Bay Gardene will be monitored to stay above 3 ppt.

³ For oyster production, the salinities at the Bay Gardene station will be monitored during these months. The structure will be operated at the lower discharge levels. If the Bay Gardene station moves to 9 ppt based on a two-week average, Caernarvon discharge will be increased, but will not exceed 4000 cfs, to decrease the average to 9 ppt. Water levels gauges will be added to certain sites and monitored.

⁴ Seek to maintain annual average 5 ppt line, based on a yearly average, and monitor salinities as to promote enhancement of oyster production in the public seed grounds and to achieve other stated benefits of the project, up to 4000 cfs.

⁵ During the period from the end of duck season through April 2 conduct two two-week 6500 cfs pulse flows with a two-week period of either no flow (experimental request) or existing flow and salinity targets for the month.